

This manuscript reported a study of detecting the Mycobacterium tuberculosis complex (MTBC) by a DNA based multiplex-polymerase chain reaction and a isolation based Ziehl-Neelsen Methods in 50 of lung specimen of cattle and 50 samples of goats sampled in a region of Nigeria. The results demonstrated that (1) the MTBC was detected from 15 (30%) and 9 (18%) out of 50 cattle samples respectively by ZN method and the PCR of a 245 bp fregment specific to the MTBC, but no any positive detection was observed in the 50 goat samples; (2) there was no amplification of the 500 bp fragment, which is supposed to be specific for M. bovis. Discussion was made to compare the two methods and two primer sets for PCR and the results offered useful information for designation a fast protocol to detect the MTBC infection in animals.

After a carefully reading the manuscript, I feel that this is a simple work and the manuscript was not well organized. Based upon the comments of reviewers and editors, I suggest the authors to make a major reversion and prepare a new reversion in the format of note. I have made some reversion through the manuscript, but it not complete. The authors should complete the reversion following the suggestions.

The general suggestions are:

1. Rewrite and reduced the introduction section. Four paragraphs could be included in this section. The first paragraph can be the importance of MTBC, including infection of animals. The second paragraph is about the detection of MTBC infection in animals, including the techniques for the detection and their disadvantages. The third paragraph is about the current situation in Nigeria about the animal infection by MTBC and its detection. The last paragraph is the aim of this study. **This correction has been effected. Lines 28-80**
2. Delete the two Tables 1 and Figures 1, 3 and 4. All the information of the tables and the figures has been presented in the text. Therefore, only one figure is necessary to show the PCR products. **We have deleted all the tables and figures except figure 2 as you suggested**
3. The section of results and discussion should be reduced. The results are simple and the discussion is too large. There are too many repetitions in the current manuscript. The discussion can be focused upon two points: (1) the MTBC infection was detected in the 50 cattle samples, but not in the goats; (2) the infection proportion of the cattle was different (30% and 18%) detected by ZN method and the PCR; (3) the amplification of a 245 bp fregment specific to the MTBC was successful, but no amplification of the 500 bp fragment was obtained, which is supposed to be specific for M. bovis. **This correction has been effected in the text; Lines 182-195**
In addition, further attention should be paid on the following points:
 1. Please indicate what gene was amplified by each of the two primer sets, and please give a brief explication **Lines 182-195** or a reference to show if the two primer sets could be used in a multiple PCR in a single amplification.
 2. In the cited reference [22], no primers INS1 and INS2 were described, but a primer set Tb11 and tb12 was used for amplification of hsp65 gene. However, the sequences of primers tb11 and tb12 were not the same to those of the primers INS1 and INS2. So, the authors should give a correct reference for these two primers. It has **been corrected, reference 14**
 3. I also checked the reference [24], which is cited for primers ISN 1 and ISN2, but I only found a citation of another paper in this reference for the primers. But the primers reported here were names as A and B. Therefore, I strongly suggest the authors to check their references and cite the original one for the primers. **This correction has been corrected in the text**
 4. In the list of references, complete journal names were used in some cases, but abbreviations were used in most cases. Please check them and make corrections. **We have made the corrections on the references also**

We have gone through all the points you made and we have made the necessary corrections.